

Torrance, California  
March 27, 1945

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, March 27, 1945 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. Absent: Councilmen: Cucci.

Councilman Powell reported that Councilman Cucci was called out of town on business, which accounts for his absence.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag!

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held March 13, 1945 be approved as written. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from Shell Oil Company, enclosing check in the amount of \$425.35, being franchise earnings for the period ending December 31, 1944 under Ordinances Nos. 116, 121, 174 and 1356 and 1502 (Los Angeles County). Matter of record.

A communication was read from Southern California Edison Company enclosing check in the amount of \$1718.80, being franchise earnings for the year ended December 31, 1944 under Ordinance No. 204. Matter of record.

A communication was read from the Los Angeles County Civilian Defense Organization, addressed to Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1, advising of the mailing of a certificate presented to the Water District for compliance with standards approved by the Los Angeles City and County War Councils for adequate plant and personnel protection.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that a communication be directed to the Los Angeles County Civilian Defense Organization, acknowledging receipt of the certificate. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Thomas A. Bowker and Elizabeth I. Bowker, making application for three permits to operate a taxi service in the City of Torrance at 1308 Sartori Street, to be known as "The Torrance Day and Night Taxi".

Councilman Powell moved that communication be referred to the Chief of Police for investigation and report at the next regular meeting. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Crill Crawford, requesting that the curb space in the front of 1405½ Sartori Street and 1637 Cabrillo Avenue be painted to designate these addresses as parking space for Mr. Crawford's taxicabs. Mr. Crawford volunteered to pay the cost of painting.

Councilman Powell moved that the request be referred to the Chief of Police for investigation and report at the next meeting. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Auto Sales, applying for refund of unused portion of business license, advising that the business has been sold and transferred.

Clerk Bartlett stated that the business license issued to Torrance Auto Sales will expire June 30, 1945, and that the new owners, Thatcher and Ott, took out a business license March 21, 1945.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the unused portion of the business license issued to Torrance Auto Sales, under the name of Allen H. Paull, amounting to three months, be refunded. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from Calvin Clark, applying for a license to operate a dairy at 17580 Arlington Avenue for the purpose of selling milk wholesale to Mayfair Creamery in Torrance.

Clerk Bartlett reported that there has been for a number of years a dairy farm at that location.

Engineer Jain reported that the zoning ordinance permits continuance of present operations, but prohibits expansion of the dairy.

Councilman Powell moved that the matter be referred to the City Engineer for investigation and report at the next meeting. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Industrial Softball League, requesting use of the Torrance City Baseball Park and a minimum of sixteen lights, without charge, for the use of the 1945 Torrance Industrial Softball League, games to be played on the nights scheduled by the Torrance Recreation Department.

Mr. Riley, Superintendent of the Recreation Department, advised that the games are scheduled to begin May 7 or 8, 1945.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be referred to Mr. Riley, Superintendent of the Recreation Department, for recommendation at the next meeting. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

At 8:00 P.M., Mayor Tolson announced that the time had arrived for opening bids for a warehouse building to be constructed at the Pumping Plant, Municipal Water District No. 1, which bids Clerk Bartlett opened and read as follows:

<u>COMPANY</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Bill Wright 6238 San Vicente Boulevard Los Angeles, 36, California	\$7920.00
No Bid Bond accompanied the bid.	
Edward R. Siple Company 2545 San Fernando Road Los Angeles, 41, California	\$8681.00
A Bid Bond in the amount of 10% of the bid accompanied the bid.	
De Camp-Hudson Company, Ltd. 1277 West Twenty-fourth Street Los Angeles 7, California	\$7340.00
A Bid Bond in the amount of \$800.00 accompanied the bid.	
C. B. Bagnall 1505 Border Avenue Torrance, California	\$7363.00
A Cashiers Check in the amount of \$800.00 accompanied the bid.	
Oppert and Forsberg 3861 West Vernon Avenue Los Angeles 43, California	\$6852.00
A Bid Bond in the amount of \$750.00 accompanied the bid.	

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the bids be referred to the Manager of the Water Company, the architect, and the City Attorney for checking and report at the next meeting. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Tolson called for protests on the 203rd Street sewer project, announcing that this constitutes the final hearing of protests. No protests were voiced.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read portions of Modification Report No. 2 in connection with the 203rd Street Sewer, in which it was advised that the Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 5 of Los Angeles County has adopted a resolution agreeing to enter into a contract with the City of Torrance and to provide therein for the payment of 48% of the construction cost of a 21-inch sewer main on 203rd Street between Crenshaw Boulevard and the District's Main trunk sewer, said payment not to exceed \$14,400.00.

It was recommended by Mr. Harold A. Barnett, who signed the Modification Report, that the report be approved and accepted and that a Resolution, which was attached, be adopted if the Council desires to proceed with the project.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Council approve and accept Modification Report No. 2, 203rd Street Sewer Project. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

#### RESOLUTION NO. 1710

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE LIMITATIONS UPON THE AMOUNT OF ASSESSMENTS, AS IMPOSED BY PART 5 OF DIVISION 4 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, SHALL NOT APPLY TO THE ASSESSMENTS OR ASSESSMENT PROCEEDINGS HEREAFTER TAKEN IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANITARY SEWER ON 203RD STREET, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Resolution No. 1710 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from O. C. Matzner, 141 South Orange Drive, Los Angeles, offering the corner lot at Cravens Avenue and El Prado Street for sale to the City of Torrance, the lot being the property where the Van De Kamp bakery is located.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the communication be referred to the entire Council for further study. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett was instructed to contact Mr. Matzner and obtain the price wanted for the lot.

A communication was read from J. A. Cassidy, 19 - 64th Place, Long Beach, requesting permission to operate a dump on the Weston property for the purpose of dumping non-combustibles only, such as oil field and refinery sludge, rotary mud, broken concrete, etc.

Mr. Cassidy stated that he would abide by all the other terms and conditions contained in his original application, which was read at the March 13, 1945 Council Meeting, still granting to the City of Torrance, exclusively, the privilege of dumping combustibles as the City sees fit, fires to be extinguished to prevent causing a smoke nuisance.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the request be granted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion.

At this point, a lengthy and involved discussion ensued, Mr. Thatcher, Mr. Stagner and Mr. Joe Correia, all of Walteria, protesting the establishment of any kind of dump whatsoever in the environs of Walteria.

It was pointed out by the Council that the City is compelled to take some action to provide additional dumping facilities, as the present dump is becoming rapidly filled, and that the location on the Weston property is the most suitable location obtainable. Members of the Council stated that they had investigated the matter and the location thoroughly, and felt in all sincerity that no nuisance will be created by the establishment of a dump. Councilman Powell pointed out that the present city dump is located approximately one-fourth mile from his residence, and that he is seldom ever aware of the dump. It was also pointed out that, although the present dump is located practically in the heart of the City, very few complaints are registered against it.

Councilman Hitchcock pointed out, further, that, by providing the dump on the Weston property for dumping non-combustibles, the space left in the present dump can be used entirely for combustibles, which will probably result in the City not being required to use the new dump for several years.

After prolonged discussion, Councilman Gilbert suggested that the permit be granted to Mr. Cassidy with the condition that the City reserve the right of cancelling the permit at any time the dump creates a nuisance or becomes obnoxious to residents, which suggestion seemed to meet with the approval of the other members of the Council.

A communication was read from L. W. Fraser, 25934 Cypress Street, Lomita, calling attention to the petition which she circulated protesting the establishment of a dump on the Weston property, which petition was read at the last meeting, and stating that the people who signed the petition, and many others, have not withdrawn their objections merely because the proponent of the nuisance has been changed from the City or County of Los Angeles to the City of Torrance. Also, she questioned the legality of establishing a dump anywhere within the confines of the City of Torrance, stating that the zoning ordinance makes no provision for the establishment of a dump.

A similar communication was read from the Palos Verdes Corporation, in the form of a telegram, over the name of Kelvin C. Vanderlip, also protesting the establishment of a dump in the location above-named.

Councilman Gilbert repeated his motion that the request of J. A. Cassidy for a permit to operate a dump on the Weston property for the purpose of dumping non-combustible refuse, with certain other terms and conditions agreed upon, be granted, with the provision that the City of Torrance reserve the right to revoke the permit and cause the discontinuance of the dump at any time it proves to be a nuisance, or is objectionable or obnoxious to residents. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A petition bearing the signatures of thirteen property owners on El Prado Street was read, requesting the removal of the eucalyptus trees on the southeast side of the parkway on El Prado Street.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the request be referred to Fred Blake, Park Superintendent, for study and report, Mr. Blake to also submit the matter to the Planning Commission for suggestions. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A petition, signed by six businessmen, was read, requesting a two-hour parking restriction from Cabrillo Avenue, west on Cravens Avenue to the alley.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be referred to the Police Department for recommendation at the next meeting. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from C. Z. Ward, Manager of Torrance Municipal Bus Lines, advising that the needs in the Bus Department are such that, in his opinion, it is necessary that a separate Maintenance Department be established, to function entirely for the maintenance of Bus Department equipment. Mr. Ward recommended that, in doing so, the Civil Service Board be requested to establish the following classifications: Bus Maintenance Foreman; Bus Mechanic, Grade A; Bus Mechanic, Grade B; Bus Mechanic's Helper.



Mr. Ward requested that, if the above is done, the Bus Department still be allowed access to Bus Department equipment and tools housed in the City general garage, and use of certain other tools and equipment belonging to the City Garage, and use of the garage, with the understanding that the Bus Lines is not to interfere with the operation of the general City Garage.

Councilman Gilbert stated he would favor granting the request, with the one provision that anyone employed to fill the above positions be hired on a temporary basis, as War Emergency employees.

Councilman Powell moved that, inasmuch as Councilman Cucci, who is Chairman of the Bus Committee, is absent from the meeting, the matter be referred to the entire Council for study in order to give Councilman Cucci an opportunity to present his recommendations. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, transmitting a copy of a resolution passed by the Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 5 and containing an offer of participation in the cost of construction of a 21-inch vitrified clay sewer pipe line in 203rd Street extending westerly from the District No. 5 main trunk sewer to Crenshaw Boulevard, approximately 3628 feet.

It was requested that, if the offer contained in the resolution is satisfactory to the City Council of the City of Torrance, and if it is desired to pursue the matter further, Mr. Rawn of County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County be so notified in order that the necessary agreement between the City and the District may be prepared.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be authorized to notify Mr. A. M. Rawn, Chief Engineer and General Manager, of County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, that the offer contained in the resolution above-mentioned is satisfactory to the City Council of the City of Torrance, and it is the desire and intention of the City to proceed with the 203rd Street sewer project, and that the Sanitation District be requested to prepare the plans and specifications. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read a telegram directed to the Mayor, inviting attendance of the Mayor at the launching of the tanker "Torrance Hills", to be held March 29, 1945, 12:30 P.M. at Sausalito, California.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the Mayor be authorized to attend the launching, expenses paid. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from John A. Lessor, President, Western Construction Company, agreeing to pay \$75.00 to apply on the cost of constructing a sidewalk on Crenshaw Boulevard (east side), between Torrance Boulevard and the first alley north.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the construction of a sidewalk on the east side of Crenshaw Boulevard, between Torrance Boulevard and the first alley north, be authorized, the City to contract the work at an estimated cost of \$200.00, to be reimbursed by Mr. John A. Lessor, owner of the apartment house at that location, in the amount of \$75.00. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from R. P. Slonecker, tendering his resignation from the 5-man Torrance Civil Service Board, effective March 27, 1945.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the resignation of Mr. R. P. Slonecker from the five-man Torrance Civil Service Board, effective March 27, 1945 be accepted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that a letter of appreciation be forwarded to Mr. Slonecker for his splendid service to the City as

a member of the Civil Service Board. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the City of Torrance Civil Service Board, advising that a meeting of the California Merit System League is scheduled for April 5, 1945 at the Los Angeles Elks Club and advising that the subject "Should Civil Service Examinations be Suspended for the Duration" will be discussed. It was requested that authorization be given for any member of the Civil Service Board, including the Secretary, to attend the meeting, expenses paid, per plate charge being \$2.00.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that those members of the Civil Service Board, and those members of the City Council who desire to attend the meeting be authorized to do so, expenses paid. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from George D. Ellingson, requesting that an investigation be made of the circumstances regarding issuance by a Torrance Police officer of a certain traffic ticket which resulted in what Mr. Ellingson alleged to be an unjust levy against him by the Torrance City Court of a \$2.00 fine. He requested a notice by mail of any action taken by the Council in this connection.

Councilman Powell moved that the communication be referred to the Police Commission for investigation. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Walteria Civic Organization requesting the City to pay the rental of \$10.00 per month for the old Post Office building in Walteria, owned by B. J. Michels, to be used for recreation purposes in lieu of the building formerly used on Park Street, Walteria.

A recommendation was made by Dale Riley, Superintendent of Recreation, that the request be granted as a temporary arrangement until such time as a building is constructed in the Walteria Park for this purpose.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the request be granted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from the County of Los Angeles, Department of County Public Library, enclosing two copies of the tentative budget estimated for County Library service to the City of Torrance and Walteria, for the year 1945-46. It was requested that the budget be approved and notice given as to whether or not it is acceptable.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be authorized to notify the County of Los Angeles Department of County Public Library that the tentative budget for the year 1945-46 is acceptable to the City of Torrance. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented for second and final reading:

ORDINANCE NO. 363

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING  
LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316, RECLASSIFYING  
PROPERTY IN BLOCKS 11, 13 AND 14, OF THE  
TORRANCE TRACT, HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 363 be dispensed with. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Ordinance No. 363 be adopted for second and final reading. Councilman Gilbert seconded the

motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1711

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR  
AND THE CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE APPLICATION  
AND AGREEMENT FOR ALLOCATION OF STATE AID.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1711 be adopted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1712

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE DIRECTING THE CHIEF  
OF POLICE TO POST NOTICES PROHIBITING  
U TURNS AT CERTAIN INTERSECTIONS ON  
TORRANCE BOULEVARD.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Resolution No. 1712 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1713

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, ACCOUNTING  
TO THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FOR CERTAIN  
SALES MADE PURSUANT TO AN EXISTING AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE SAID CITY AND THE SAID  
COUNTY.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1713 be adopted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1714

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE RELATING TO CERTAIN LEGIS-  
LATION NOW PENDING BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE  
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Resolution No. 1714 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

An opinion was read from City Attorney John E. McCall relative to the question "Where a city of the sixth class lets a contract for the construction of a sewer within the city under the 1911 Bond Act, can the city purchase from the contractor said Street

Bonds? Also, can a Municipal Water Department, which has a surplus, purchase 1911 Act Street Bonds from a contractor in the city where the Municipal Water Department is located?"

Mr. McCall rendered the opinion that either of the city or the Municipal Water District can purchase said Bonds with any surplus which it may have.

Councilman Powell moved that the communication and opinion be placed on file for future reference. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that Paul Slonecker be employed as Bus Maintenance Foreman, effective March 27, 1945, at a salary of \$250.00 per month. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Powell moved that, in compliance with a recommendation of Engineer Jain, an appropriation of \$600.00 be made for materials for a frame garage and storage building for the Electrical Inspection Department, in the parking lot at the rear of the Police Station, to be used for housing the Inspection Department trucks and other equipment and for storage of street lighting supplies and equipment, labor of construction to be performed by City forces. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation of \$50.00, plus tax, be made for 1,000 10-ride commutation books from Dillingham Printing Company. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Powell moved that A. J. Link be employed, on a temporary basis, as bus operator at a salary of \$185.00 per month, effective March 16, 1945. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation of \$1,000.00, including tax, be made for purchase of a 1942 DeSoto sedan for the Police Department, list price being \$1785.59, less \$785.59 trade-in on Plymouth Police car, and that the Chief of Police be authorized to complete the purchase transaction. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the advertising for bids for one diesel-operated, track laying tractor, equipped with a one cubic yard, hydraulic loader, for the Street Department, be authorized. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Gilbert moved that, in compliance with a recommendation of Engineer Jain, an appropriation of not to exceed \$400.00 be made for materials for a frame garage building for the Park Department, to be located in the triangular area north of the Santa Fe tracks on Cabrillo Avenue, to house Park Department trucks and other equipment. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.



Councilman Gilbert moved that the employment of Sam Estes, as a Park Maintenance Man, as a War Emergency employee, be authorized, at a salary of \$170.00 per month, effective March 14, 1945, replacing Neal Webb. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Gilbert moved that payment to Neal Webb's widow of his regular vacation pay, the amount being \$85.00, be authorized. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Gilbert moved that, in compliance with a recommendation of Dale Riley, Superintendent of Recreation, an appropriation of not to exceed \$65.00 be made for 400 feet 2-inch used pipe, to be used in building playground equipment for the Walteria and Pueblo playgrounds. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Dale Riley, Superintendent of the Recreation Department, and Fred Blake, Superintendent of the Park Department, each be allowed \$25.00 per month for expense of operating their private automobiles for City business. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Gilbert moved that an appropriation of \$200.00 be made for legal defense of City Clerk Bartlett in the case of Howard P. Raymond vs Albert H. Bartlett, City Clerk, and Harriett V. Leech, City Treasurer.

Councilman Powell stated that, after much consideration, he had determined in his own mind that a mistake had been made in granting an appropriation for outside defense of the City Treasurer in this case; that he felt the City Attorney is retained by the City for the purpose of defending the City Council.

Councilman Gilbert pointed out, however, that, in this particular case, all members of the Council had not been in agreement upon the basic question involved, and that he felt it to be the duty of the Council to defend the public officers of the City, and most particularly in this case where opinions differ and where it is the desire of all members of the Council to obtain a definite decision on the question. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Powell. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Powell defended his negative vote with the statement that it is his sincere opinion that the City Attorney should be the one to handle this case, and that he was convinced that he should have also voted no on the appropriation made for the City Treasurer's legal defense.

Mayor Tolson pointed out that appropriations have been made for legal counsel in all other cases in this particular suit, and that there appears to be no reason why the City Clerk should not be accorded the same courtesy. Councilman Powell agreed on this point, but added that he still felt the City Attorney should handle the defense.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$117.80 be made for 2 thrust bearings for 75 H.P. 4 pole US motors frame #952 VHS deep well turbines for Municipal Water District No. 1. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.



Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$259.80 be made for 5 8" Gate Valves for Municipal Water District No. 1, the City to be reimbursed, as these valves are to be used on a certain Navy project in the City. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gucci.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$177.05 be made for 5 8" Sleeves, 5 8" Tees, and 500 lbs. caulking lead for Municipal Water District No. 1. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gucci.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Joel Hagberg of Walteria expressed appreciation for action taken in agreeing to pay \$10.00 per month for the temporary recreation building in Walteria.

Mr. Thatcher inquired regarding the traffic signal which was to have been installed on Hawthorne Boulevard, Walteria.

Engineer Jain advised that the contract has been awarded to the Econolite Corporation, and that he understands the company is awaiting necessary priority.

Mr. Hagberg asked what has been done relative to the race restriction question. Attorney McCall advised that he has not completed the report.

Mr. Stagner questioned the zoning of the property to be used for a dump, asking whether or not the matter had been referred to the Planning Commission.

Mayor Tolson advised that he had no knowledge of the matter having been presented to the Planning Commission.

Councilman Gilbert requested Clerk Bartlett to furnish Mr. Stagner a copy of Land Use Ordinance No. 316 after the meeting.

Mr. Thomas Babbitt, member of the Torrance Civil Service Board, stated that, in the beginning the test case of Howard P. Raymond vs A. H. Bartlett, City Clerk, and Harriett V. Leech, City Treasurer, to determine whether or not an elective officer in a sixth class city can legally also hold an appointive position, he and the Board had not known that so much expense to the City would result. He said all the Board wants is a court decision, but that, if the defendants have attorneys representing them, it will develop into a regular court action.

Mayor Tolson pointed out to Mr. Babbitt that Mrs. Leech and Mr. Bartlett were named as defendants in a court action, the case having been filed in court, and that they naturally will employ legal defense, this being their only alternative.

Mr. Babbitt said he had not expected the matter to become so involved. He said it had been presented to Mr. Perry Briney, Attorney, who told the Board that it could only be handled through the regular channels, i.e., the courts.

Mayor Tolson pointed out again that the specific object of this case is to have both sides present their arguments and let the court hand down a decision.

Councilman Gilbert stated that the Recreation Commission had recommended that the City Council approve the plans for a Recreation Building at Walteria as drawn by the City Engineer, and that the City Council lease that portion of Tract 4070, owned by the Los Angeles City Board of Education, to be developed as a temporary playground and that \$500.00 be appropriated for improvement and equipment. He asked Engineer Jain for an estimate on the cost of constructing the building in Walteria.

Engineer Jain said that, although \$1900.00 had been estimated for the building which does not include plumbing, wiring and plastering of the restrooms, his estimate for the job, including the plumbing, wiring and plastering of the restrooms, is \$2,000.00.

Councilman Gilbert suggested that the first recommendation, relative to the plans for the recreation building Walteria, be held over until Mr. Jain and Mr. Riley complete the plans.

Councilman Gilbert moved that that portion of Tract 4070, owned by the Los Angeles City Board of Education, be leased by the City for development into a temporary playground, and that \$500.00 be appropriated for improvement and equipment for the playground. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Gilbert moved all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Powell stated that Mr. Ward had called attention to the fact that some extremely urgent mechanical work is necessary on busses, and for that reason, would like some action relative to use of the City Garage and equipment.

Councilman Powell moved that Engineer Jain be authorized to instruct Mr. Herman Pickett, City Garage Department, to allow Mr. Paul Slonecker, Bus Maintenance Foreman, use of whatever City Garage tools and equipment he may require for the repair of busses of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines, a suitable arrangement to be made between Mr. Pickett and Mr. Slonecker for use of the tools and equipment until such time as permanent, other arrangements can be made for the Bus Lines. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

At 9:40 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Gilbert, seconded by Councilman Hitchcock, the meeting adjourned.

  
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY TORRANCE

APPROVED:

  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE